FOOTNOTES
FOR CHAPTER VII

-READING-

THIS STORY WAS ALWAYS INTENDED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. BUT TRUTH BE TOLD. THE TOWN OF READING BECAME THE MAIN STAGE SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF NAMING THE NEWSPAPER GOOD READING'S (AND BECAUSE OF ITS PROXIMITY TO LONDON).

I HAVE NEVER SET FOOT IN BERKSHIRE AND MOST LOCATIONS OF THE STORY WERE DRAWN FROM PICTURES I FOUND ON THE INTERNET. HERE ARE SOME OF THEM:

READING LIBRARY

READING CENTRAL LIBRARY IS A FOUR STOREY RED BRICK BUILDING BASED ON TRADITIONAL READING BRICK DESIGNS. OPENED IN 2001.

THE CENTRAL LIBRARY IS ON ABBEY SQUARE, ON THE CORNER OF THE KING'S ROAD, FORMER SITE OF THE READING ABBEY STABLES WHERE THE HORSES OF MEDIEVAL CHURCHMEN, NOBILITY AND ROYALTY WERE STABLED.

SIMEON MONUMENT

ALSO KNOWN AS THE SOANE OBELISK, THE SOANE MONUMENT AND THE SIMEON OBELISK, IT IS A STONE STRUCTURE IN MARKET PLACE, THE FORMER SITE OF THE MARKET IN READING. IT WAS COMMISSIONED BY EDWARD SIMEON, A READING-BORN MERCHANT WHO BECAME VERY WEALTHY AS A LONDON TRADER.

IN 1804, SIMEON COMMISSIONED LOCAL ARCHITECT JOHN SOANE TO DESIGN A STRUCTURE WHICH WOULD SERVE TO CARRY LAMPS TO LIGHT THE AREA.

SOANE DESIGNED AN UNUSUAL TRIANGULAR STRUCTURE, 25 FEET HIGH AND BUILT OF PORTLAND STONE.

THE STRUCTURE WAS IMMEDIATELY CONTROVERSIAL, DENOUNCED WITHIN WEEKS OF ITS OPENING AS "A PALTRY GEW-GAW THING WITHOUT USE, OR NAME", BUILT BY SIMEON TO PROMOTE HIMSELF RATHER THAN FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.

THE MARKET WAS RELOCATED AWAY FROM MARKET PLACE IN THE 1970S, AND THE OBELISK AVOIDED DEMOLITION PRIMARILY OWING TO LOBBYING BY ADMIRERS OF SOANE, AS IT WAS THE LAST SURVIVING STRUCTURE IN READING TO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY HIM.

IN 2005, READING BOROUGH COUNCIL AGREED TO LANDSCAPE MARKET PLACE AND TO RENOVATE THE SIMEON MONUMENT.

CORN EXCHANGE

IN ENGLAND, CORN EXCHANGES ARE DISTINCT BUILDINGS WHICH WERE ORIGINALLY CREATED AS A VENUE FOR CORN MERCHANTS TO MEET AND ARRANGE PRICING WITH FARMERS FOR THE SALE OF WHEAT, BARLEY AND OTHER CORN CROPS.

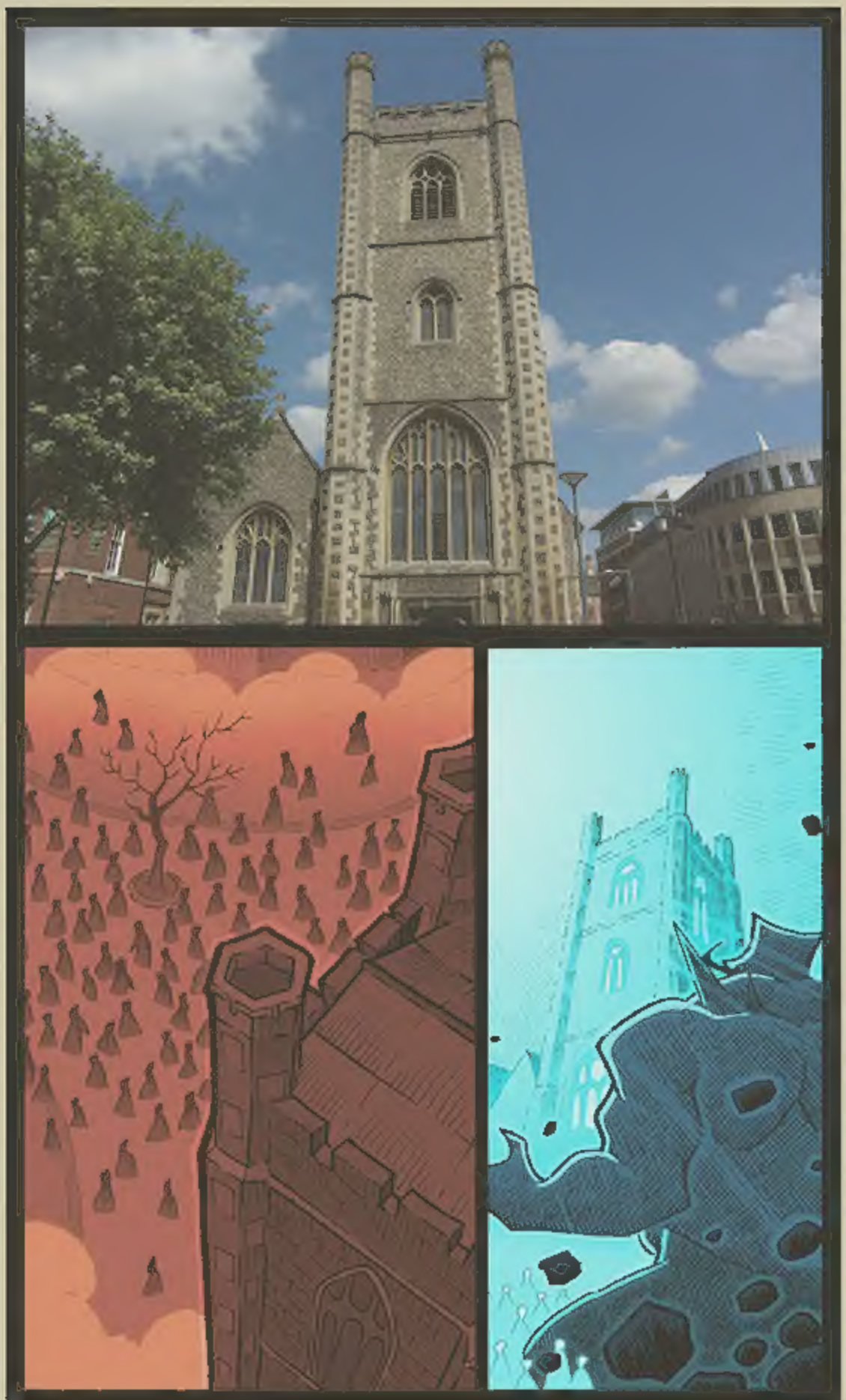
THE WORD "CORN" IN BRITISH ENGLISH DENOTES ALL CEREAL GRAINS, SUCH AS WHEAT AND BARLEY.

WITH THE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS IN 1846, A LARGE NUMBER OF CORN EXCHANGES WERE BUILT, PARTICULARLY IN THE CORN-GROWING AREAS OF EASTERN ENGLAND.

HOWEVER, WITH THE FALL IN PRICE OF ENGLISH CORN AS A RESULT OF CHEAP IMPORTS, CORN EXCHANGES VIRTUALLY CEASED TO BE BUILT AFTER THE 1870S.

ST LAURENCE'S CHURCH

ST LAURENCE'S CHURCH IS A FORMER PARISH CHURCH, SITUATED ALONGSIDE THE SITE OF READING ABBEY.



IN THE 1970S, A DECLINING CONGREGATION MEANT THAT THE PARISH OF ST LAURENCE WAS MERGED WITH THAT OF ST MARY'S.

NUMBERS CONTINUED TO DECLINE, AND AT THE END OF THE 20TH CENTURY, IT WAS DECIDED TO SEEK A NEW ROLE FOR THE CHURCH. THE INTERIOR WAS REORGANIZED, AND A MODERN MEZZANINE FLOOR INSERTED AT ONE END OF THE NAVE. TODAY IT SERVES AS A MISSION CHURCH WITH A MANDATE TO ENCOURAGE THE FAITH AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE.

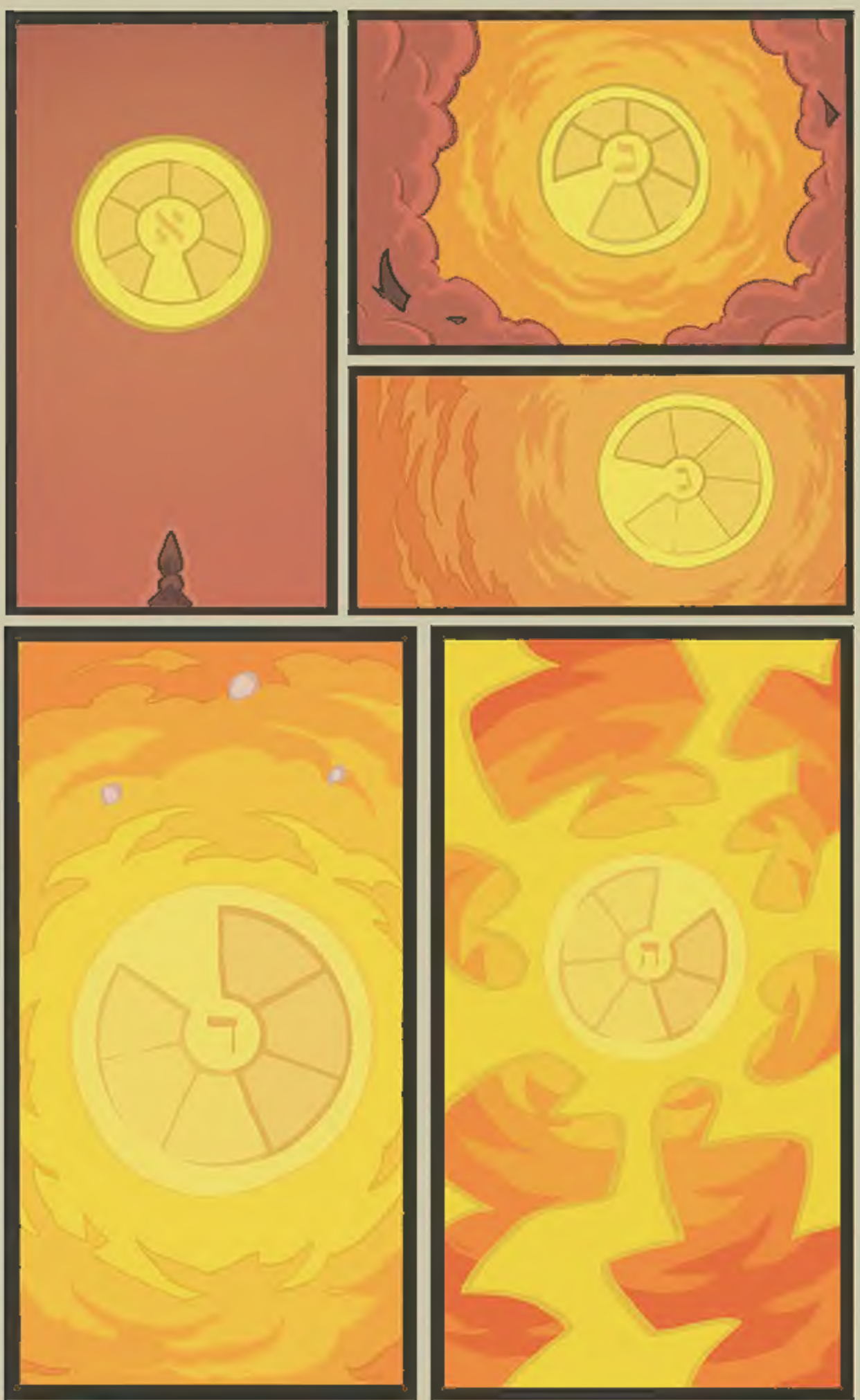
-REVELATION:

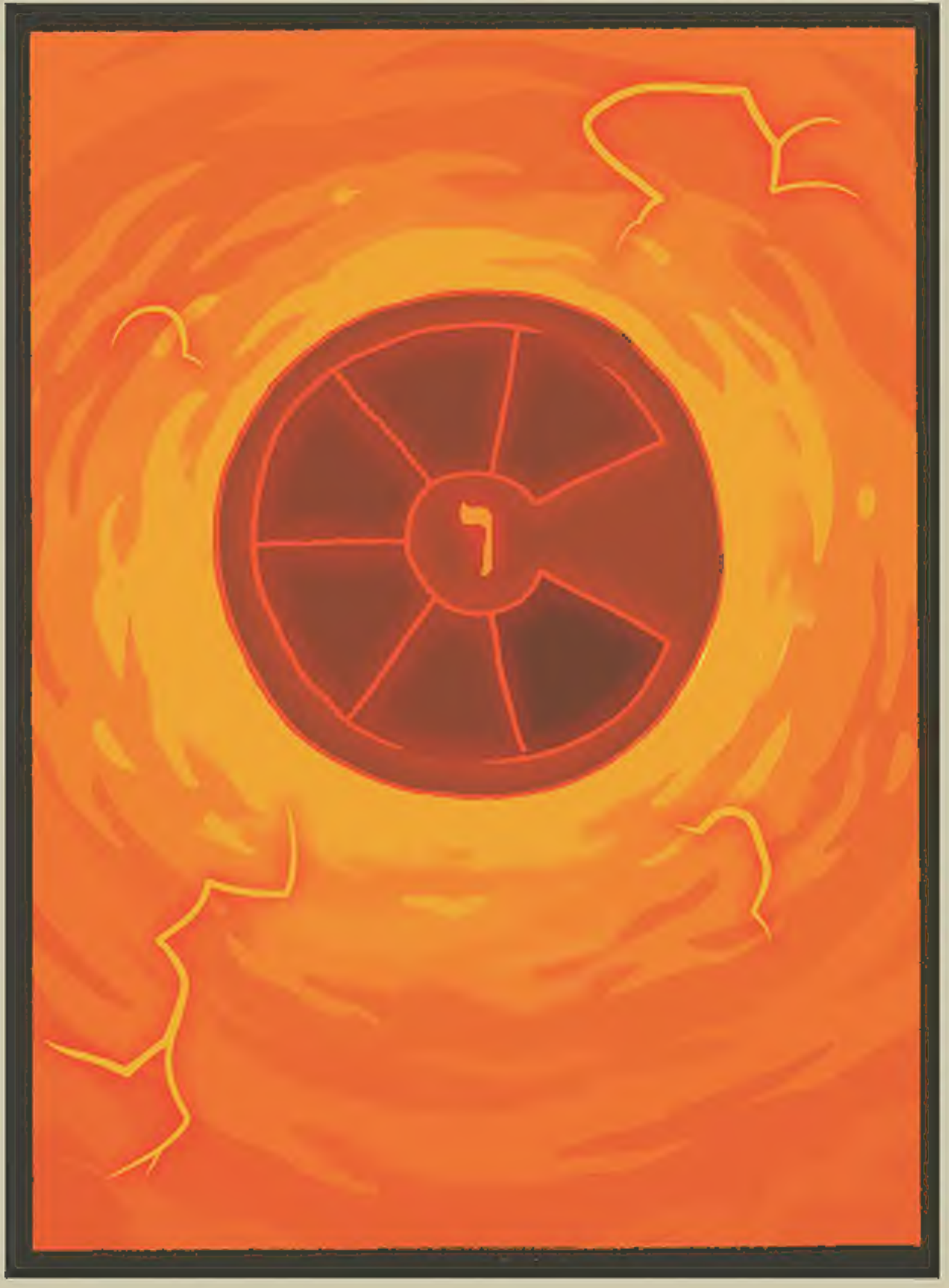
THE BOOK OF REVELATION, OR SIMPLY REVELATION, IS THE FINAL BOOK OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, AND THEREFORE ALSO THE FINAL BOOK OF THE CHRISTIAN BIBLE, AS WELL AS THE ONLY APOCALYPTIC DOCUMENT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT CANON.

IT DESCRIBES A SERIES OF PROPHETIC VISIONS, INCLUDING MANY ICONIC FIGURES SUCH AS THE SEVEN HEADED DRAGON, THE BEAST AND THE HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE. THE OBSCURE AND EXTRAVAGANT IMAGERY HAS LED TO A WIDE VARIETY OF CHRISTIAN INTERPRETATIONS OVER THE CENTURIES, AND INSPIRED MANY OF THE CHARACTERS I HAVE CREATED FOR THIS STORY TO ACCOMPANY THE HORSEMEN AND THE ANTICHRIST ON THEIR JOURNEY.

WHILE SOME ROLES WERE GIVEN OPENLY ALONG THE WAY, OTHERS WERE REATTRIBUTED BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE STORY. HERE ARE MOST OF THEM:

THE SEVEN SEALS

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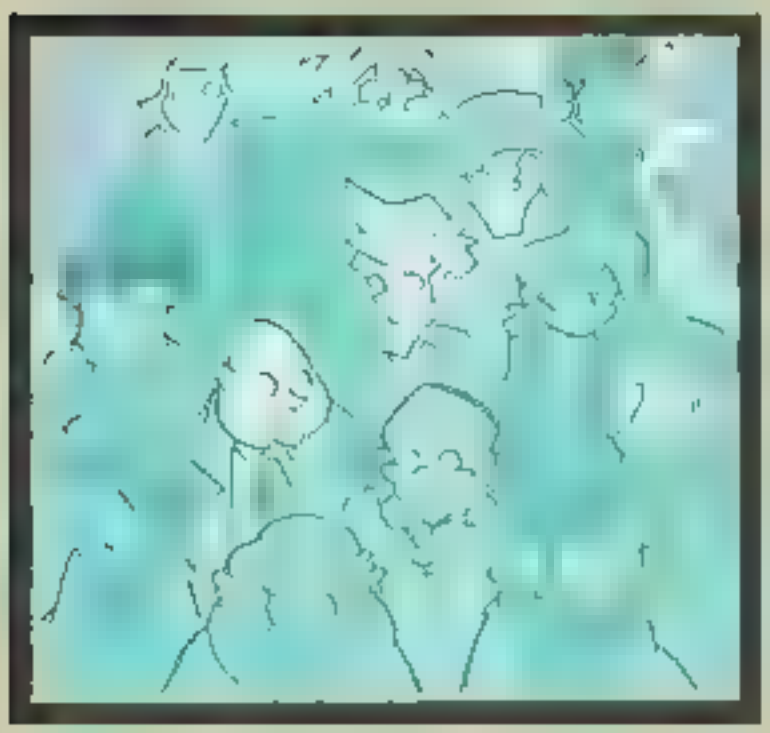
LAMB HORNED BEAST OF THE EARTH

"WHORE" OF BABYLON

HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE

HADES
(LAND OF THE DEAD)



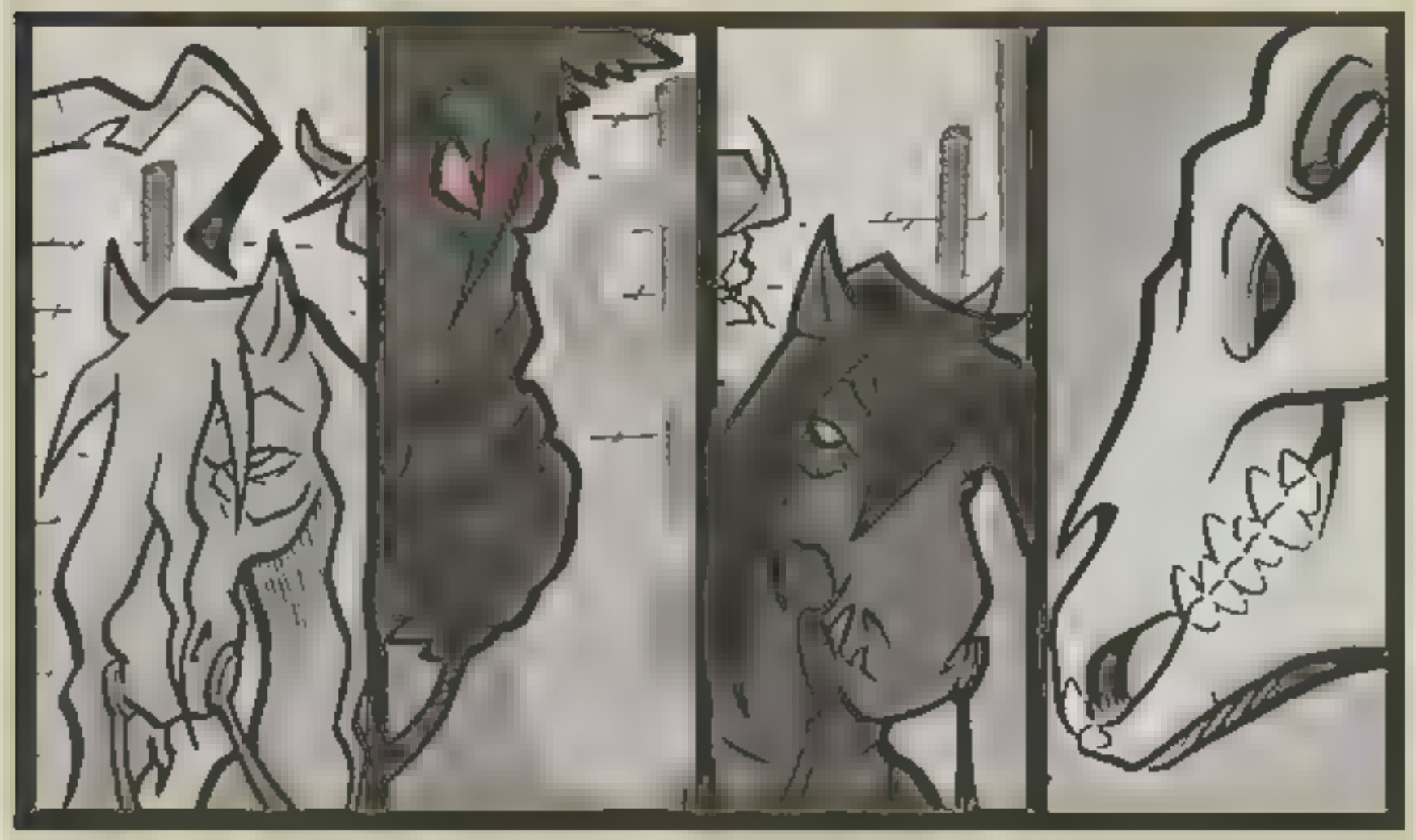
TWO
WITNESSES

WHITE
HORSE

RED
HORSE

BLACK
HORSE

PALE
HORSE



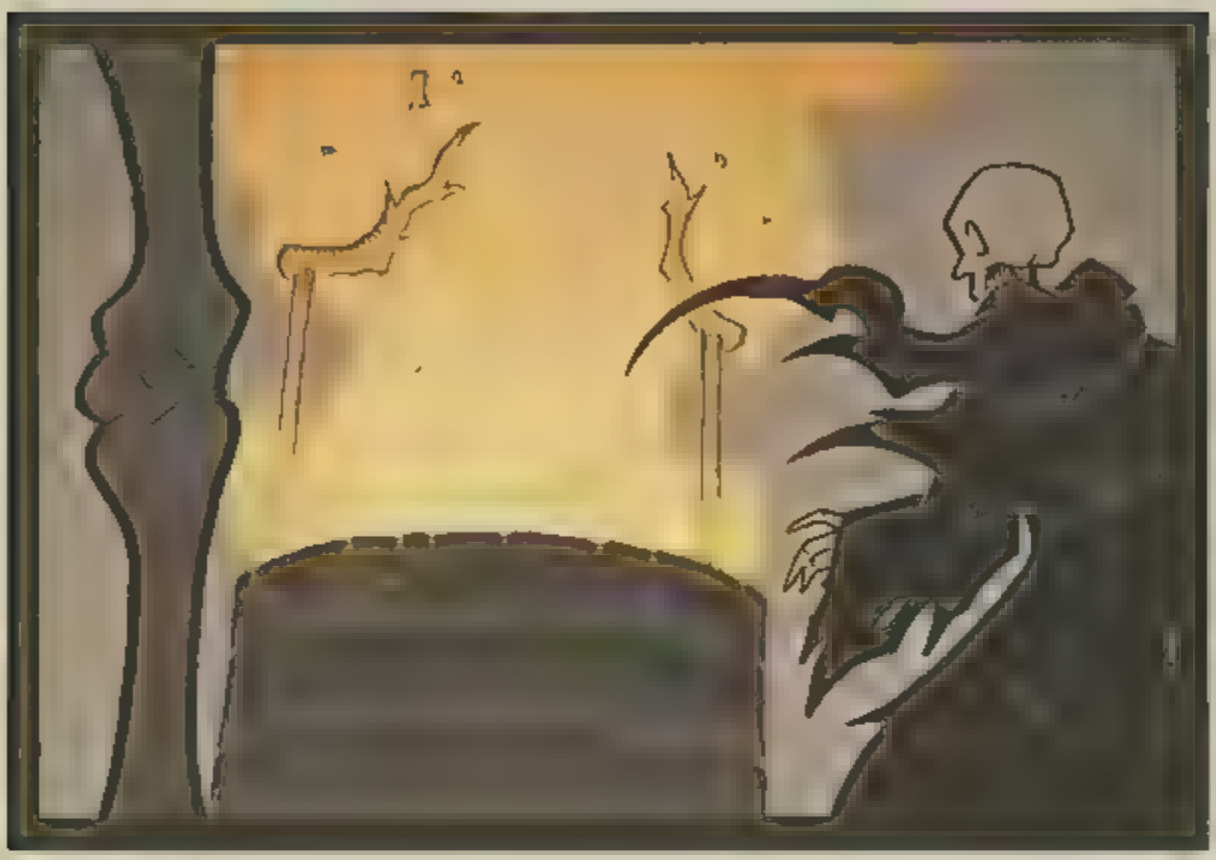
WOMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE

FALSE PROPHET

SEVEN HEADED BEAST OF THE ABYSS

RED DRAGON

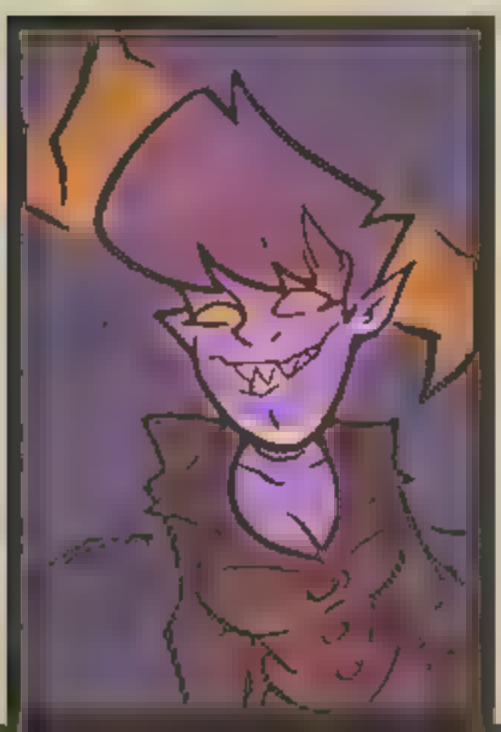
DEVIL



EARTH

TRINITY

THE MOTHER



THE DAUGHTER

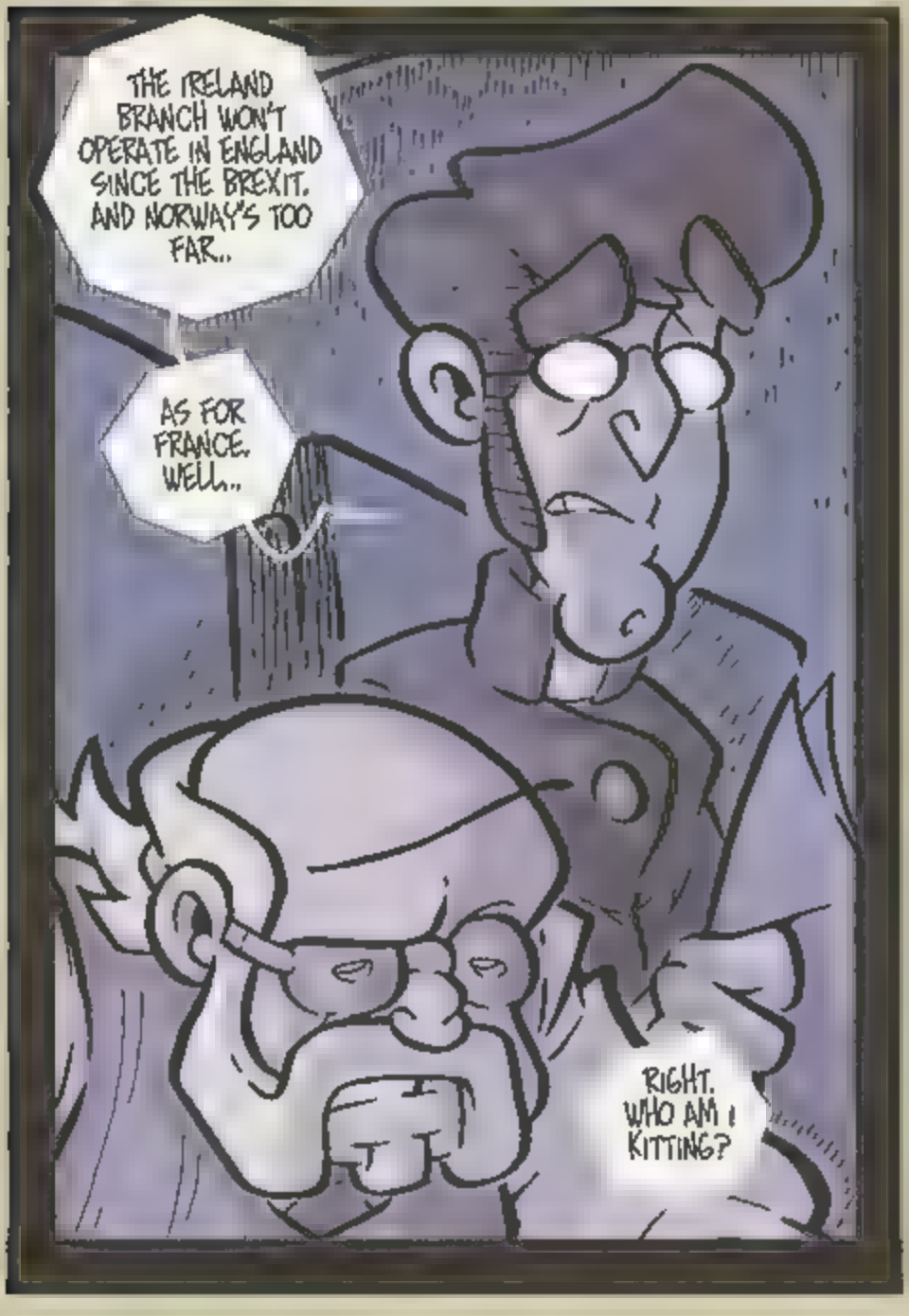
THE UNHOLY GHOST

LUCY
NEVER 'S MOTHER OF
ER SINCE HER ROLE IN ADED
TEN APPEARED IN SITUATIO
DEVIL
AS SUPPOSED TO MANIFES
MANY, TO SUSPECT SHE'S A
THAN SHE LETS ON...

BREXIT

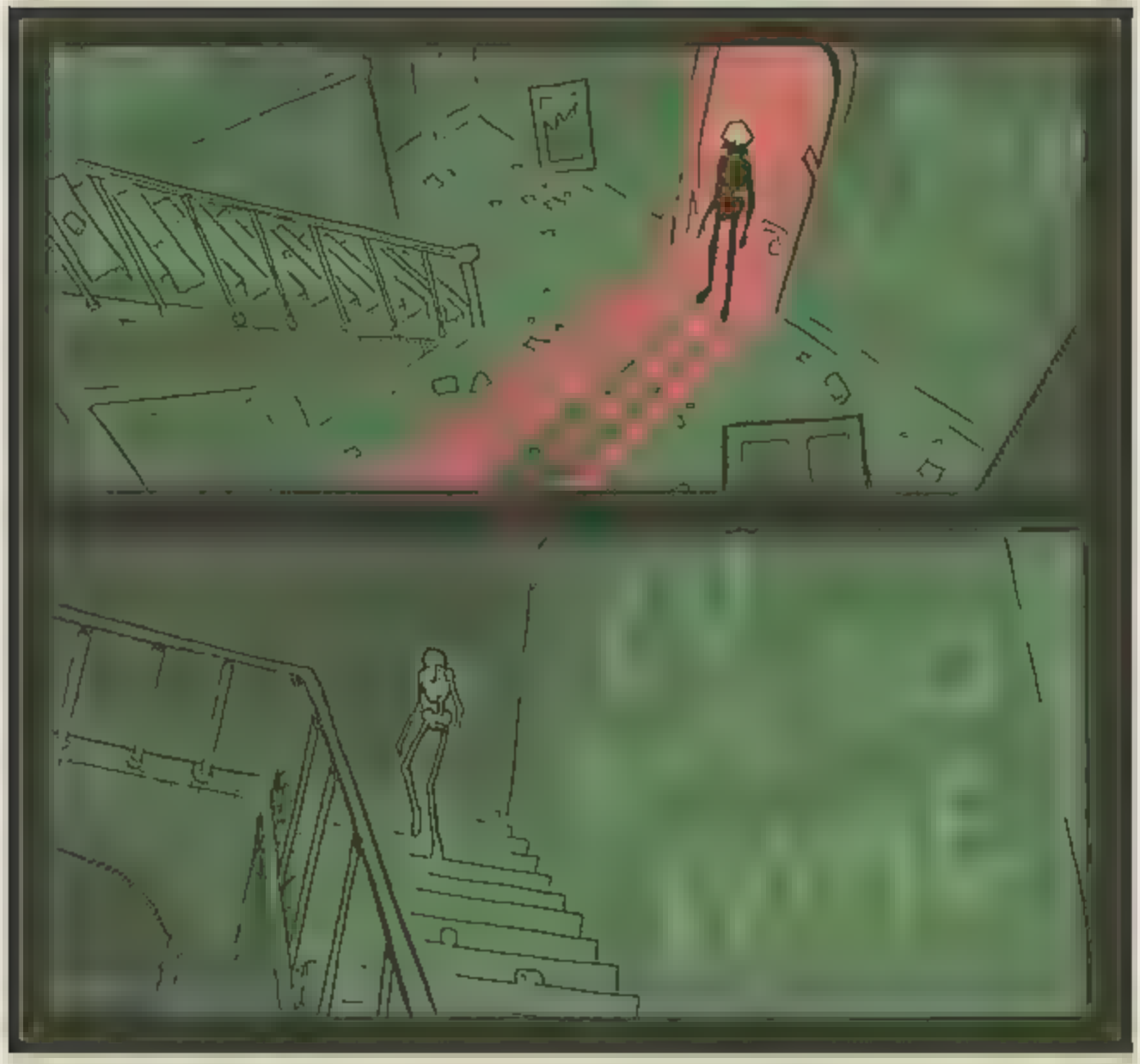
CH2

EUROPE
HORSEMEN



REFERENDUM

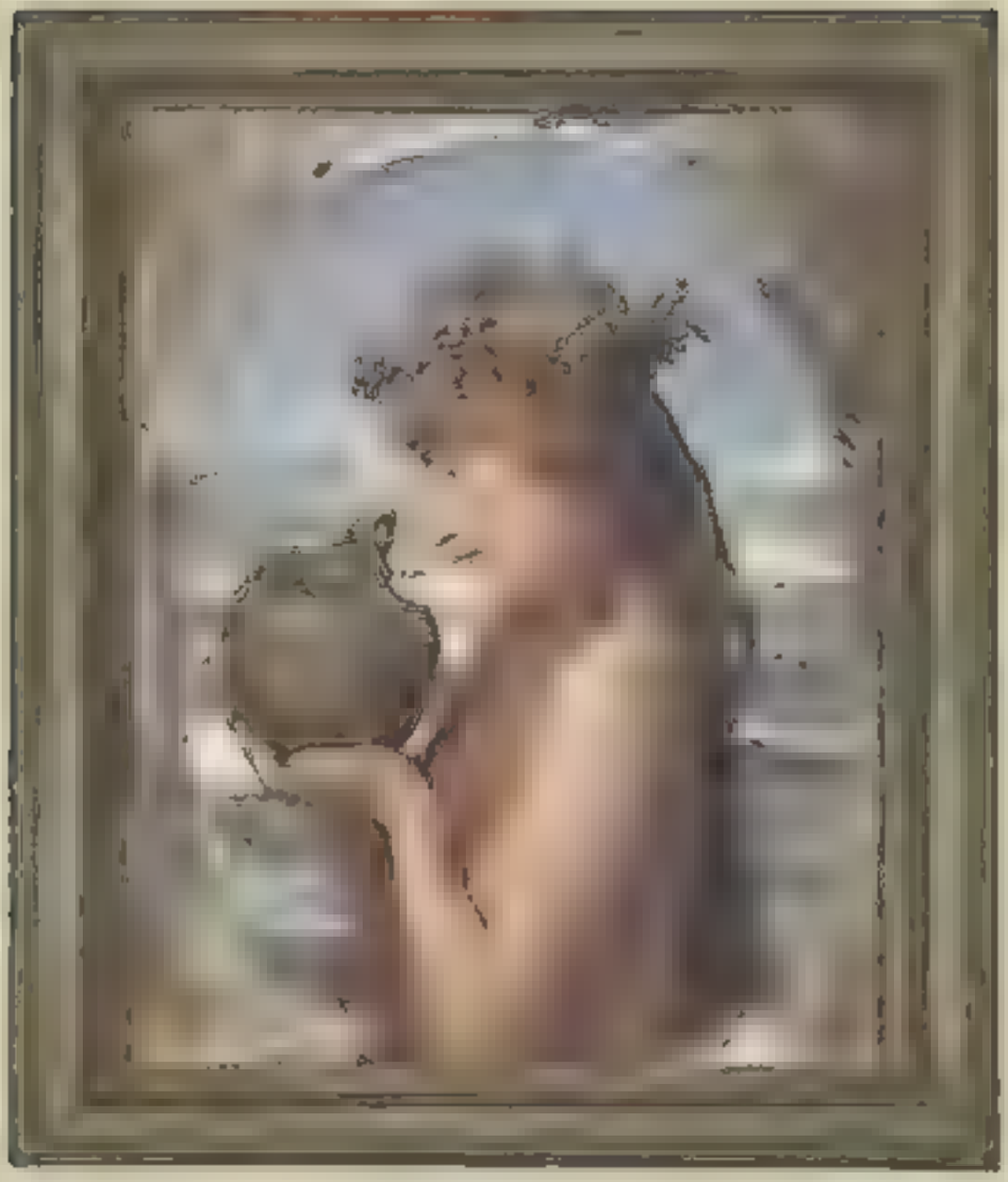
UK



HORSEMEN

BRITAIN

– PANDORA:



PANDORA'S BOX

ANGELA

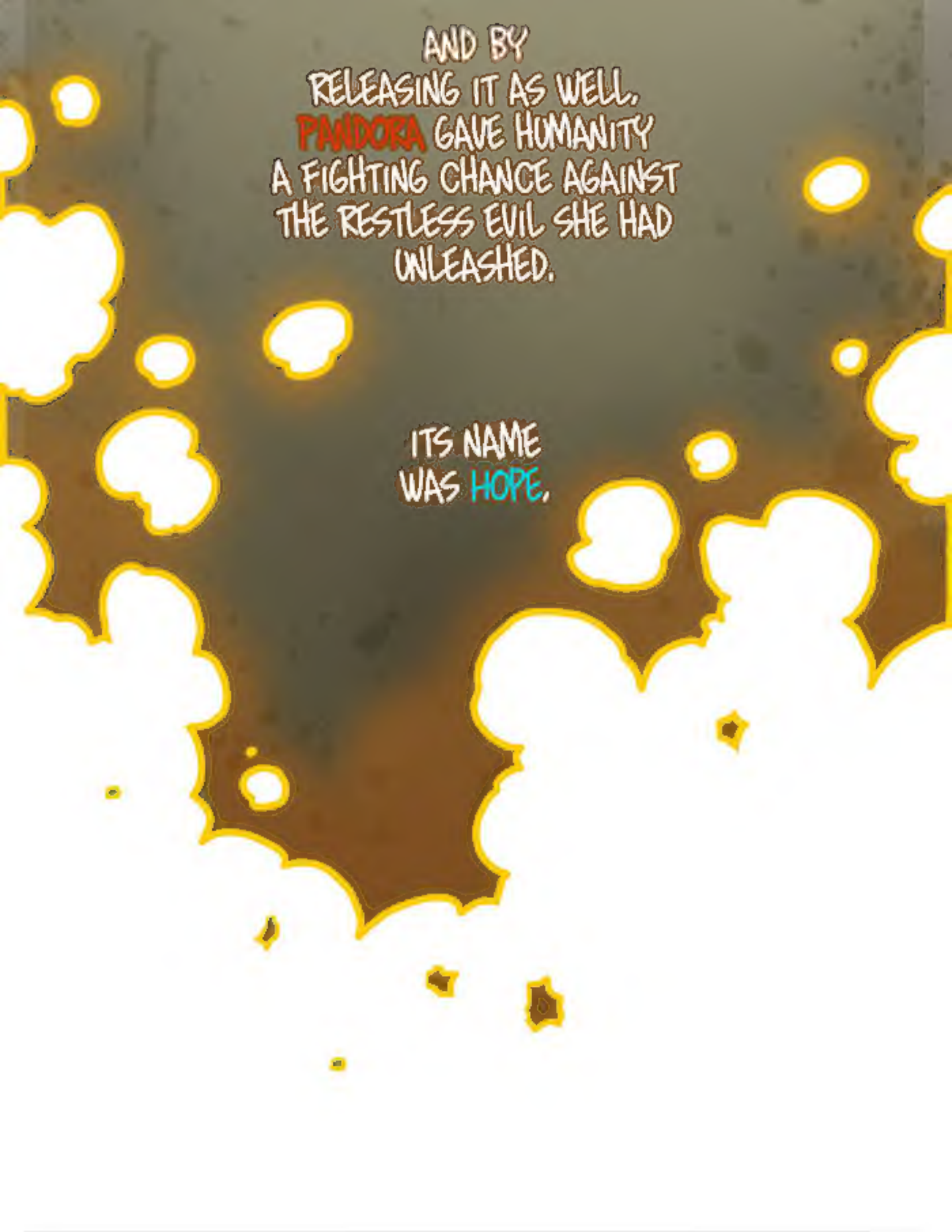
PANDORA

GODS

PANDORA TRIED TO TAME HER CURIOSITY.
BUT IN THE END, SHE COULD NOT HOLD HERSELF VERY LONG.

SHE OPENED THE BOX, AND OUT OF IT CAME SICKNESS, HATRED, WAR, HUNGER, DEATH AND MANY OTHER PLAGUES, WHICH FROM THIS POINT ON WERE ALL SET FREE UPON MANKIND.

ONE LAST THING REMAINED IN THE BOX, HOWEVER.


AND BY
RELEASING IT AS WELL,
PANDORA GAVE HUMANITY
A FIGHTING CHANCE AGAINST
THE RESTLESS EVIL SHE HAD
UNLEASHED.
ITS NAME
WAS HOPE.